मध्य प्रदेश में वायुदूत सेवाओं में कटौती

*29 **श्री अजीत जोगी :**
श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा :

क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्रदेश में विशेष रूप से राज्य के अविकसित आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में कार्यरत वायुदूत सेवाओं को पूरी तरह समाप्त कर दिया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और क्या बस्तर, बिलासपुर और सतना को पुन: वायु सेवाओं से जोड़ा जायेगा ;

(ग) राज्य के उन क्षेत्रों को वायु सेवाओं से जोड़ने की क्या योजनायें हैं जिनमें विकास की असीम क्षमतायें हैं ; और

(घ) क्या देश में अन्य राज्यों को भी वायुदूत सेवाओं से इसी भांति वंचित किया गया है ?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधवराव सिंधिया) :– (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) से (घ) वाणिज्यिक और परिचालनात्मक कारणों से वायुदूत को देश के विभिन्न राज्यों में अपने नेटवर्क में अत्यधिक कटौती करने के लिए विवश होना पड़ा है । वायुदूत की सेवाओं में विस्तार करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

Increase in Power tariffs

*30. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an increase in power tariffs in on cards for funding schemes for creation of an additional 38,000 MW power generation capacity;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard including the proposed power generation schemes; and

(c) when will a final decision be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) An incremental capacity addition of about 38,000 MW has been recommended by the Department of Power for the Eighth Plan The Eighth Plan is yet to be finalised and, therefore, the allocation for the power sector, the capacity addition and funding arrangements that would materialise cannot be determined at this stage.

The fixation of the tariffs for the sale of power to consumers is the prerogative of the State Electricity Boards which are autonomous organisations. They revise the tariffs periodically. Several of these Boards are making losses and most of them are unable to even to earn the statutory prescribed minimum rate of return of 3 per cent. It is in the over all interest of the power sector that an unremunerative tariff structure is not adopted. Fifteen States Electricity Boards have enhanced their tariff rates for electricity supplied to different categories of consumers since 1-4-90. This is expected to improve their financial position.

Transfer of Transmission Project to National Power Transmission Corporation

*31. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposed to transfer all transmission projects in the country to the National Power Tansmission Corporation; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) All transmission lines and sub-stations, alongwith associated facilities and supporting equipment of power utilities in the Central Sector will be taken over by the National Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (NPTC) in a phased manner.

(b) The National Power Transmission Corporation will be responsible for operation, maintenance and construction of all transmission systems and associated sub-stations in the Central Sector, but in close co-ordination with State Electricity Boards so that large blocks of power could ultimately be moved from various generating sources under the Central Sector to the load centres within the region, as well as across the regions, with reliability, security and economy.

Accident at Dudhichua Coal Project

*32. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a disastrous accident had taken place at Dudhichua project of Northern Coalfields Limited in Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh in June, 1991; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) An accident occurred on 8-6-91 in the Coal Handling Plant being constructed by a Contractor at Dudhichua Project of Northern Coalfields Limited. Heavy downpour 155.8 mm resulted in the collapse of the tunnel under construction. Seven workers of the contractor got trapped in the tunnel and died. Torrential rains coupled with break-down in power supply hindered the speed of dewatering operations. Three dead bodies were recovered on 10-6-91, three on 13-6-91 and one on 14-6-91. Besides these, three persons were injured, out of whom, two were treated in the NCL hospital while the third only required first-aid.

Decline in visits by foreign tourists

*33. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of foreign tourists that arrived in the country during the last three years, till date;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned through these foreign tourists during the said period;

(c) whether it is a fact that the deteriorating law and order situation in some States has led to a decline in foreign tourist arrivals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what urgent steps Government propose to take to increase the number of foreign tourists in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The number of foreign tourists, including the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh who visited India and the estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism during the last three years are as given below:

Year	Tourist Arrivals	Estimated foreign exchange earnings (Rs. in Crores)
1988-89 . .	1,619,298	2,103
1989-90 . .	1,765,079	2,456
1990-91 . .	1,613,681	2,444